



# Washington Preservation

Winter 2004

The Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development



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## Legislative Building Rehabilitation Done! (Well, almost...)

By Donovan Gray, OAHP

The state capitol building is back in action, after almost three years and 700,000 hours of hard work by over 3,000 workers. Work on the \$118 million project began the day of the Nisqually Earthquake, February 28, 2001, when M. A. Mortenson Company signed on as general contractor/construction manager. With \$10 million provided by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), federal historic preservation law became an active element of the legislative building project, and the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) took an active role in helping ensure that all construction work was completed to meet federal standards and guidelines. First Janet Rogerson, and then Donovan Gray, represented OAHP in weekly design and construction meetings, reviewing all architectural drawings and specifications, and monitoring the actual work itself. Their preservation design review activities were funded by the state's Emergency Management Division through an interagency agreement.

The best compliment that can be paid to the outstanding craftsmanship accomplished during the rehabilitation is for someone to look around the state capitol building and wonder, "Where the heck did they spend \$118 million? It looks the same!" That's

precisely the point, and was a driving standard throughout the rehabilitation. Senior Project Manager for M. A. Mortenson, Marvin Doster, likes to compare it to "Where's Waldo?" Try to find where over 1,136 miles of new wiring (that's six million linear feet) has been installed, or 27 miles of new piping, 150 tons of ductwork, or 25,000 bags of plaster were used to repair 150,000 square feet of wall surface. It was reported to be the largest plaster undertaking in the United States last year.



All photos courtesy of Dick Milligan, Senate Photographer

That's not to say there weren't trade-offs made, or compromises reached on historic issues. In order to make the building as accessible as possible for people with disabilities, some doorknobs were changed, historic bathroom fixtures replaced, electrically-powered door openers installed, and protective railings placed in stairwells. The infamous steep ramps on the first floor, north of the former cafeteria, were partially bridged across by a straight platform, something everyone will benefit from. Yet these installations were done with sensitivity to the original design of the building, using complementary marble to harmonize the overall appearance with the historic fabric of the building.



Accessibility ramp on 1st floor

Some ceilings were lowered to accommodate the miles of new ductwork for heating and air conditioning. While this altered some historic interior dimensions and spatial relationships, the impact is slight, and does not jeopardize the historic character of this grand building.

Continued on page 2



Dome lighting ceremony



*Continued from page 1*

Other changes were driven by life-safety concerns. Safety cables were installed on all the major chandeliers in the building, but with a coloring that largely hides them from public view. Use of a sturdy marine rope allowed a smaller diameter cable to be installed than would normally be the case. A fall restraint system, where workers on the roofs of the building can tie on a safety rope, was installed,

and the mounting brackets are being faux-painted to match the adjacent sandstone surface.

The building was originally plastered using a lime putty plaster, which takes a long time to dry, and nowadays is very expensive. Rather than strictly following rehabilitation standards which would have called for "in-kind" replacement, i.e., using the same material as the original, the vast majority of the plaster work was done with modern gypsum material. However, the four large reception rooms of the statewide officials on the second floor were repaired using lime putty, so the original construction technique would be preserved as examples.

Some desired repairs were not made in order to protect rare historic material. The drinking fountains in the Senate and House chambers were not restored to operation because of the danger of breaking irreplaceable marble of German and Italian origin. In other instances, a repair technique or approach that was not preferable under historic preservation standards was used because any alternative would have potentially caused greater damage to the historic fabric of the building. The House rostrum wall, damaged in the Nisqually Earthquake, was repaired with a fiberglass wrapping so that irreplaceable marble in the Chamber wouldn't be disturbed.

Only minor work remains to be completed at this time: paint touch-ups here, adjusting doorknobs there. Balancing of ventilation systems will continue, with another seasonal adjustment this coming spring. But for all intents and purposes, the project is substantially complete.

Throughout the rehabilitation project, the architects, contractor, sub-contractors, capitol conservator and OAHP staff worked together to find the best solutions for the myriad challenges faced and successfully met, using the guiding principle to "do what is best for the building." It was an almost Herculean task at times, but all parties worked together to preserve the historic integrity of the most significant building in our state, and the fourth largest domed building in the world.



Visitors return to the Capitol after renovations

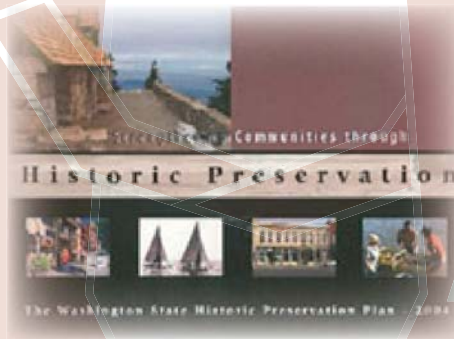




# PRESERVATION COLLABORATIVE COMPLETES FIRST YEAR

Having evolved out of the statewide historic preservation planning process, the Preservation Collaborative has completed its first year of existence in its mission of monitoring progress of the state preservation plan with a meeting on October 8 at the historic O.O. Howard House in Vancouver. The concept for the Collaborative grew out of the process that resulted in the State Historic Preservation Plan 2004: Strengthening Communities through Historic Preservation; the plan steering committee felt strongly that a mechanism needed to be put into place that would guide implementation of the plan. The idea for the Collaborative was placed within the preservation plan along with a list of prospective members. Membership in the Collaborative is focused on the agencies, entities, and interest groups that have an interest in the plan's implementation and the state's larger historic preservation community.

At its meetings in 2004, the Collaborative has worked to develop a matrix that identifies each objective in the state plan and fleshed out the timeline for planning activities. Objectives that have been discussed over the course of the year include work on Objective 1.B. Facilitate Heritage Tourism Across the State, Objective IV. A. Promote Historic Preservation as a Sustainable Development and Growth Management Tool, and Objective VI. C. Use the Internet and Media Effectively. The Collaborative has also been discussing Objective 1.A. Promote Historic Preservation as an Economic Development Tool, particularly working to identify funding for implementation of the economic impact analysis of historic preservation on the state's economy.



In 2005, the Collaborative will continue to focus on the proposed economic impact analysis as well as expanded funding opportunities for historic preservation work in the upcoming legislative session. Also on the horizon in 2005 is convening a conference involving historic preservation agencies and tribal historic preservation officers and their related cultural resource programs. Chairing the Collaborative next year will be Steve Franks of the Spokane Department of Planning succeeding Jack Williams of Seattle, Chair of the Washington State Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and who also chaired the state preservation plan steering committee. We greatly appreciate Jack's willingness to take-on all this leadership role as the plan was constructed and again once it was placed into action. All members of the Collaborative are to be thanked for serving on the Collaborative on a completely voluntary basis.

Please note that the next meeting of the Preservation Collaborative will be held on Thursday, January 27, 2005 in Longview in conjunction with the Advisory Council meeting. Anyone interested in the work of the Collaborative is welcome to attend. For more information about the Collaborative, the next meeting, or to obtain a copy of the state preservation plan, contact Greg Griffith at 360-586-3073 or [gregg@cted.wa.gov](mailto:gregg@cted.wa.gov). The plan can also be downloaded directly from the OAHF website at [www.oahp.wa.gov](http://www.oahp.wa.gov). OAHF staff is also available to give presentations about the plan and its implementation.

## Historic Property Inventory Database Use Required 1/1/05

The Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation unveiled the Historic Property Inventory Database in the fall of 2001. Up until this time, use of the database has been strongly encouraged, but not required. However, as of January 1, 2005 all inventory forms submitted to OAHF must be on our electronic database. We have been advising all consultants and agencies who have turned in inventory forms for the last several months of our intention to make the use of the database mandatory, and the time has now come. For more information on the Survey and Inventory program, visit our website at <http://www.oahp.wa.gov/pages/HistoricSites/Survey.htm>. The database is provided free of charge – simply contact Megan Duvall, Survey Program Manager, at [megand@cted.wa.gov](mailto:megand@cted.wa.gov) to get started.

At this time, there are over 120 registered users of the database with more added almost daily. Since launching the database, we have listened to user's feedback and have gone through four "versions" in which we have attempted to address any concerns or glitches that have come up. We will continue to take your comments to heart and do our best to make sure that the database is as user-friendly as possible.

Training on the database is also available, simply contact Megan Duvall, 360-586-3074, and she will arrange a demonstration.

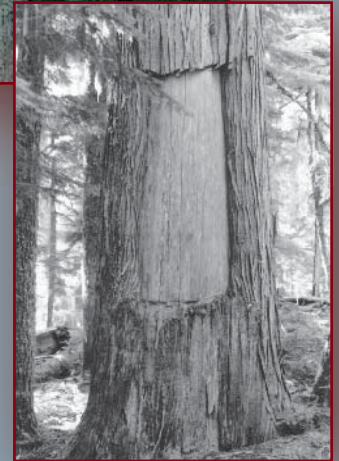
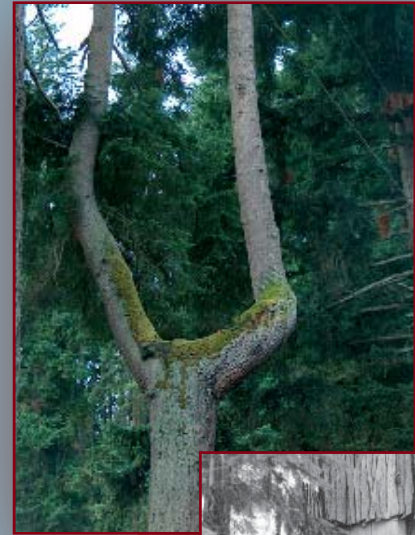
# ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH OCTOBER 2004

The theme of this year's Archaeology Month was "Living Archaeology" recognizing and honoring the legacy of human use and the archaeological evidence of human modification of trees. This month's poster, designed by Megan Duvall, featured a collage of culturally modified trees from across the state.

Celebrating the 12th annual Washington Archaeology Month were over twenty events, lectures, and walking tours that were held in a wide variety of venues. Highlights included the archaeology of historic farms and ranches sponsored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Colville, a Kid's Dig at Fort Vancouver Historic Site, and the archaeology of roads in King County.

The award winning training session, sponsored by the Washington State Department of Transportation and Washington State Parks, on the importance of protecting cultural resources was held at the Dalles' Discovery Center and Columbia State Parks and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) Training for law enforcement officials was held at Hanford, continuing a tradition of emphasizing education about the importance of protection our archaeological heritage during Archaeology Month.

On a side note, Washington's 2003 Archaeology Month Poster, Asian Pacific American Archaeology, took second place in a nationwide poster contest at the Society for American Archaeology's 69th Annual Meeting in Montreal last year!



## New Program Launched by the Preservation Trades Network



In 2003 the Preservation Trades Network (PTN) launched an ambitious new program - the International Trades Education Initiative (ITEI) - the first comprehensive examination of the role and future of the trades in conservation of the built environment in almost forty years.

Recognizing the continued development and evolution of the trades, the goal of ITEI is to develop a strategic plan for trades education in the 21st century. The PTN Education Committee is taking the lead in this effort to enhance public and institutional support for trades education, develop new models of cooperation in domestic and international education, and create opportunities for collaboration and exchange among new and existing programs and organizations. Creating the "roadmap" for the future of the trades will be guided by the following principles:

- \* Conservation of the built environment is fundamentally dependent on the quality, availability, and viability of skilled trades.
- \* The trades are represented in the knowledge, skill, and professional judgment applied by people engaged in construction, repair, and conservation.
- \* The sectors of the construction trades that are involved in the maintenance, repair, and long term conservation of the built environment work both within, and outside, the building industry and the preservation mainstream.
- \* The work of the trades embraces the continuity of traditional craft practices, and the appropriate application of new technologies, materials, and methods.
- \* Development of trade skills, whether through apprenticeship, individual learning, or academic programs is a lifelong process.
- \* Opportunities for education, employment, and compensation of people in the trades

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# SINCLAIR PARK CD AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION

Artifacts Consulting of Tacoma has made available copies of a remarkable CD documenting the now demolished Community Center of Bremerton's Sinclair Park. The CD was created as mitigation for demolition of the Community Center building that was determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places based upon its association with the nationally significant World War II homefront theme, for being an example of mid-20th century housing and neighborhood planning concepts, and its association with the many African American families who came to Bremerton in the 1940's to work in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The housing has long since been demolished, but the Community Center survived until recently being used as a readiness center for Kitsap County emergency services. The building was replaced in order to construct a new structurally sound readiness center for the County.

The Sinclair Park CD documentation breaks new ground by providing documentation in a new medium with the added benefit of distribution to much larger audiences. Mitigation for the loss of National Register listed or eligible buildings and structures is typically accomplished through documentation work comprised of a comprehensive historic narrative, extensive photography, supplemented by plans and historic images. Although providing a complete record of such properties for future research, such documentation has limited accessibility to the public. In contrast, the recently released Sinclair Park documentation can be accessed from any personal computer and features animated visualizations of the building, oral histories, period music, and a "family album" of the Sinclair Park. A highlight is an animated re-telling of a story involving a young Quincy Jones

sneaking into the Community Center and discovering pie and a piano!

The Washington State Military Department, as project sponsor, generously provided funding for the mitigation project. Artifacts Consulting worked with the Military Department and OAHP to develop the electronic documentation concept and identified a large number of stakeholders in the Bremerton area. Those contributing to the content include The Black Historical Society of Kitsap County, Kitsap County Historical Society, plus former Sinclair Park residents with Diane Robinson as the primary contact, among many other agencies and organizations.

Limited copies of the CD are available free-of-charge by contacting Zee Hill at [zeeh@cted.wa.gov](mailto:zeeh@cted.wa.gov) or 360-586-3065. OAHP would like to thank the Military Department, Artifacts Consulting, and the many other individuals and agencies who participated in creating this delightful yet effective documentation project. To a remarkable degree, this effort brings to life the vibrant community that flourished briefly at Sinclair Park during a pivotal moment in Washington's history.



## Preservation Trades Network, continued

*continued from page 4*

are directly reflected in the quality of the built environment, and the effective stewardship of cultural heritage.

\* The trades are international in scope, requiring international communication, collaboration, and development of educational partnerships.

Preparations are underway for an International Trades Education Symposium to be held at Belmont Technical College in St. Clairsville, Ohio, October 5-7, 2005. PTN is working with cooperating organizations and institutions

including the National Council for Preservation Education, the World Monuments Fund, the Smithsonian Institution Center for Folk Life and Cultural Heritage, the Timber Framers Guild, Edinburgh's Telford College, Belmont Technical College, the American College of the Building Arts, the Association for Preservation Technology International, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and other leading organizations.



# Free House in Cheney!

*Must be moved by March 2005*

Historic Building Available: James Madison Moorman House, 308 4th Street, Cheney.

This historic 1880 Cheney residence must be moved from its present location. Presently listed on the Cheney Register of Historic Places, most features are original and the building is worth preserving at a new location. This is one of the few remaining examples of vernacular Gothic Revival residential architecture in Cheney.

At present, this structure looks exactly like it did in 1884, with the exception of the front porch. This small, hipped-roof porch is supported by a single square box post. The structure is a gable front with a side wing gable on the north face and a series of two additions at the rear of the structure. Fenestration and entries are original. Windows are capped with Gothic Revival type molding and the second story windows are peaked to match the tall gables. On the front of the structure, there is a small pavilion complete with two double-hung windows, a small hip roof, and a single peaked double-hung window above. The shed-roofed addition houses a kitchen and a bath. Unique design and roof plan make this building stand out from its relatively simple contemporaries.

The building exterior is in good condition, although the interior will need substantial renovation. The property owner is willing to transfer ownership of the building only to an individual who agrees to relocate it and restore it to useful condition. Preference will be given to an owner who agrees to retaining its Local Historic Register status. Contact the Cheney Planning Department at (509) 498-9240 or view the website: <http://www.cityofcheney.org/moorman/index.html> for more information. Serious inquiries only.



## ***New Website Unveiled at OAHP***

This past October OAHP launched a redesigned website and long anticipated on-line searchable database for State and National Register properties. The website features easy navigation, sections on financial and technical assistance and an electronic clearinghouse for a variety of guidelines, forms and studies.

WISAARD (Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data), Washington's new on-line searchable database for State and National Register properties, allows users to search for listed properties via a map or a text query.

The information available for over 1800 registered historical sites includes images of the

property, a short summary description about the significance of each resource and a link to the nomination document as a PDF file. National Register listed archeological sites include only limited location and detail information to prevent looting and vandalism. Two text queries are available, a simple and advanced, which allows a user to search for properties by historic name, address, city, county, architectural style, built date, historical use, architect and listing status. The searchable database and website were funded by a grant from the U.S. Federal Highway Administration. To search WISAARD go to: <http://www.oahp.wa.gov/pages/wisaardIntro.htm>.

# Future of Water Garden Up in the Air

Donovan Gray, OAHP and  
MaryGrace Jennings, GA

Across the street from our historic State Capitol Campus in Olympia, in an underutilized public park called the "East Capitol Campus" sits a modest collection of concrete blocks nestled under trees and surrounded by flat plaza. It's called Water Garden, and it used to be a fountain. It's not just "any" fountain, but one designed by the world famous landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, who also designed Freeway Park in Seattle, and the Lovejoy and Ira Keller fountains in Portland. Halprin was also a member of the design team that created the Seattle World's Fairgrounds, and the redesign after the World's Fair that gave us Seattle Center.

Architecturally, the East Campus is a "lid" over state parking garages and a section of 14th Avenue. It is undergoing a multi-million dollar waterproofing project to correct a faulty design that had allowed persistent, corrosive water damage to the underground structures. The project budget includes funds to completely replace the surface treatment of the campus, at the replacement value of the original design. Among the goals of the new design are to create friendly, accessible, safe, and more useful public space that is in harmony with the design of the West campus. The work is being done in phases, and Phase V will address the area that includes Water Garden beginning in early 2005.

Maintenance problems plagued Water Garden nearly from the day it was turned on. Because of water leaks that state maintenance workers couldn't repair in the early 1990's, the water was shut off in 1992 and Water Garden lost one of its most significant design elements. Even without running water, the sculptural park-like area has remained in favor with many who use it frequently for rest, as a lunch or meeting spot, or a little playground, which neighborhood children do on a regular basis. Others have come to consider the silent and somewhat mysterious monoliths a bit creepy.



The pre-design for the East Campus Phase V design, approved by the State Capitol Committee, calls for elimination of Water Garden, to be replaced with an elliptical lawn and a small plaza for future artwork. Water Garden was "designed out" because of its poor track record and the State's legitimate concerns over incorporating a leaky fountain into an expensive waterproofing project. However, an article written by Rick LeBrasseur and published in Landscape Architecture Magazine last year brought the pending demise of Water Garden to the attention of the professional landscape community, and the state's Department of General Administration (GA) began to reconsider and explore other options.

In October GA commissioned two studies to help with the evaluation. The first, prepared by the State Arts Commission and OAHP in partnership, provided GA with an analysis of the artistic and cultural value of Water Garden. The second is a technical report evaluating the feasibility and cost of four options: 1. demolition, 2. restoration, 3. removal and relocation, or 4. demolition and replication (building anew from the original drawings). All of the options are considered do-able, and range from \$846,000 to \$1,703,000 in estimated cost.

Greg Bell, a member of the public art staff of 4Culture, the arts agency serving King County, was contracted by WSAC for the first report, to research and write about Halprin and the fountain from an artistic perspective. Donovan Gray, Preservation Design Reviewer, with OAHP, researched and wrote about the development of the East Capitol Campus in the late 1960's and early 1970's, and surveyed employees in nearby buildings and the people in the surrounding neighborhood to ask their opinions about Water Garden, their history with the piece, and what they thought should be done with it. Gray also had an opportunity to visit personally with Halprin at his San Francisco office, while in the Bay Area on family business.

The result is a thorough and thoughtful review of Lawrence Halprin's contributions to landscape design in the Pacific Northwest, as well as nationally and internationally, and an analysis of why Water Garden is a significant asset not only to the state of Washington, but to the world of landscape design as well. Water Garden is a Halprin design representing



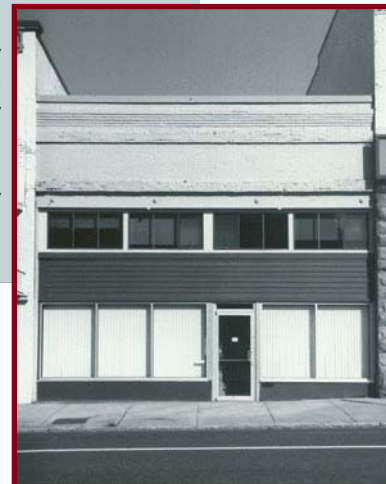


# Recent National Register and Washington Heritage Register Listings

## ***Sweet & Company Building - Bellingham (Washington Heritage Register)***

This simple vernacular structure represents Bellingham's building boom during the early part of the 20th century. Constructed c.1902, the Sweet & Company Building served as a grocery store until the mid 1950s. At the time it opened, the Sweet & Company Grocery store was one of forty-seven retail grocers serving Bellingham.

Following the closure of the store, the space was vacant until the Morse Hardware Company purchased the building and expanded into the space in 1953. Today, it continues to function as part of the Morse Company buildings.



## ***Strawberry Barreling Plant - Olga (WHR)***

Constructed during the winter of 1937-38, the Strawberry Barreling Plant in the hamlet of Olga on Orcas Island is historically significant for its direct ties to the agricultural history of the island. During the 1930s and 40s, Orcas Island was the state's largest producer of the Marshall Strawberry. By 1940, over 114 tons of berries were being produced.

The nominated structure housed a 'state-of-the-art barreling plant' until 1944. It was then used for storage until it was sold in 1978. Over the years it has housed a variety of restaurants and is currently the home a local artists' cooperative gallery, "The Orcas Island Artworks" and a restaurant, "Café Olga".



## ***Robinwood Apartments - Spokane (National Register)***

Designed around a central, open courtyard, the Robinwood Apartments are the first residential garden apartments in Washington to be listed on the National Register.

Built in 1939, the Robinwood Apartments, were constructed by noted Spokane developer, Chester F. Rider. Rider, who founded, owned, and managed the Rider Housing Corporation, constructed several single family dwellings and multi-family apartment complexes on Spokane's South Hill. With the exception of the Tudor Revival-style Robinwood Apartments, Rider's known projects were designed in the Spanish Eclectic tradition.

## ***Opportunity Township Hall - Spokane Valley (NR)***

Located in the newly incorporated city of Spokane Valley, the Opportunity Township Hall is unique in the history of the state. Only two counties in the state, Spokane and Whatcom, adopted township organization.

The hall served as a public building for the enactment and administration of laws, rules, and regulations and later as a community center. The 1912 Mission style hall was designed by Charles Harvey Smith. The township organization remained in effect until 1974. Today the hall is being converted to a museum.



## ***Wilson Hotel - Anacortes (NR)***

Designed by the prominent Tacoma architecture firm of Pickles and Sutton, the 1890 Wilson Hotel in Anacortes represents the aspirations of developer David Wilson, who reportedly developed upwards of \$300,000 worth of buildings in Washington within a three year period around the turn-of-the-century. Keen on business opportunities in the up-and-coming Anacortes, Wilson invested heavily in the city, constructing three buildings.

The Wilson Hotel was built during Anacortes' boom time and was touted as one of the finest hotel establishments north of Seattle. Construction of the hotel cost an estimated \$42,000. The upper two floors contained fifty-two rooms and the ground floor hosted a restaurant, saloon, retail shops, and office space.



## ***Recent National Register and Washington Heritage Register Listings, continued***



### ***Morse Hardware - Bellingham (NR)***

As a major supplier of coastal native trade goods, primary provisioner of the Klondike Gold Rush, and as the single largest hardware dealer for the Puget Sound and Alaska salmon canning industry, the Morse Hardware Company held one of the largest stocks of wholesale and retail goods in the Pacific Northwest. The business was incorporated in 1897, and by 1902, its major headquarters building at 1023-1025 North State Street in Bellingham was completed. Still operating from the same building, the Morse Hardware Company is now run by the original owners grandson and is the largest hardware wholesaler in Western Washington.



### ***Barlow Building - Bellingham (NR)***

The 1892 Barlow Building on west Holly Street in Bellingham is significant as one of the city's well-preserved examples of a single-storied commercial building. The building has a high level of architectural detail with its intact storefront, and ornate tapestry of brick work which is highlighted by marble banding and a scalloped parapet wall.

The structure was initially built as a grocery store, but for over 40 years housed a leather goods company run by Clifford Barlow. During the period of operation, the business underwent several name changes as the need for and types of leather goods changed. Following the closure of Barlow's ca.1959, the space was used by a variety of tenants.

### ***Daylight Building - Bellingham (NR)***

Designed by Bellingham architect Frank C. Burns, the 1904 Daylight Building is significant as one of Bellingham's well-preserved examples of a multi-storied commercial buildings, and as an early work of Frank Burns.

The Daylight Building was most likely the first building in the city designed by Burns. True to the building's name, numerous skylights and expansive fenestration afforded ample natural lighting for interior spaces. The building's high level of architectural detail indicates a familiarity with and ability to successfully employ Classically-influenced proportions and elements into Burns designs. Over the years the building has housed a variety of businesses.



### ***Holy Trinity Episcopal Church - Palouse, WA (NR)***

Designed in the Gothic Revival style, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Palouse, represents the spiritual needs and aspirations of a small community in rural Washington State. Constructed in 1896, in the waning years of the Gothic Revival style, the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church is also representative of rural ecclesiastical architecture in the state. Unique to this property is a rare example of a litch gate. Mainly found on European churches, the covered entry gate served as an important part of a burial service.

Recently sold by the Episcopal Dioceses, today the building is owned by the Whitman County Historical Society who plan to use the structure for small weddings, funerals, recitals, and other gatherings.

## Local Preservation Briefs

Ritzville—Washington State's first Preserve America Community is Ritzville. Ritzville received the national honor from US Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Dr. David Sampson, at a special ceremony in front of the Burroughs House and Museum. There are now over 100 Preserve America Communities in the United States since First Lady Laura Bush announce the program in 2003. Ritzville was recognized for their efforts to preserve their historic downtown resources while finding creative ways to bring economic development to the central business core.

Dayton—A wallpaper artisan who has done restoration work for the White House and the residences of royalty, came to Dayton to hang custom manufactured wall coverings for the Boardman House. Jim Yates of Johnsonville, Tennessee, is the nation's leading expert on wallpaper. The Dayton Depot Historical Society sent samples of the historic wallpapers, uncovered after decades of neglect, to the Wolf House Art Paper Company in Ohio. Wolf House specializes in recreating period specific wall fabrics and they decided to manufacture the Boardman House papers. The Depot Historic Society will receive a royalty on all of the purchases made from the wallpaper patterns reproduced from the Boardman house samples.

Cheney—the Cheney Historic Preservation Commission is exploring the possibility of establishing one or two historic neighborhood districts adjacent to the Eastern Washington University campus.

Cle Elum—There is an effort afoot to make Cle Elum the state's next Certified Local Government. The CLG status could mean a big boost the Cle Elum's downtown, which has seen a renaissance in the past two years.

Colfax—The Colfax Historic Preservation Commission received a budget of \$3,500 from the City Council to conduct a survey of historic properties in downtown. These inventories will augment a new Colfax website.

Connell—The Dougherty building in downtown Connell has been identified as a candidate for a facade rehabilitation. The building has undergone several remodels in the past ninety years but new owners wish to restore the building with new windows and new entries.

Kent—The Greater Kent Historical Society is collecting oral histories for a new book project. Those with recollections of early Kent should contact the society at 253-856-5185.

Morton—The Roxy Theater hosted its first performance in decades as a fundraiser to restore the historic performing arts center. The program was a spin on 1940's radio shows of the past. The Roxy Theater recently was endowed with an annuity of \$44,000 from a couple of Morton High School alums living in California.

## Water Garden, Con't

*Continued from page 7*



a significant transitional phase in his work, from earlier, open landscaped areas such as the Avista grounds in Spokane, to the latter urban gardens represented by Freeway Park, Lovejoy Fountain and Ira Keller Fountain, and monumental work such as the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial in Washington D. C.

A sub-committee of the State Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee (CCDAC) reviewed both reports and the status of Water Garden on December 17th. They expressed strong support for fountain restoration. Their advice will be considered by GA's Director Rob Fukai, and by the State Capitol Committee should Director Fukai feel their review is warranted. CCDAC member Fred King pointed out that the current pre-design already calls for placement of artwork within the elliptical lawn that would replace Water Garden, and CCDAC Chairwoman Barbara Swift called it "serendipity" that the existing work fits so nicely within the re-designed campus.

A decision on the fountain's future will be necessary by early February in order to avoid impact to the Phase V project schedule.



## Upcoming Events

The 119th Annual meeting of the **American Historical Association** will take place **January 6-9** at Seattle's Convention Center. For registration information go to <http://www.historians.org>

The Washington State Historical Society is hosting the **Washington Heritage Conference** in Olympia.

The conference dates are **February 7-9**. For conference registration and information, contact Gary Schalliol at 360-586-0219.

**State Historic Preservation Officers Awards** will be held **May 10** from 5pm to 8pm in the State Reception Room of the newly restored Capitol Legislative Building in Olympia.

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference** will be in Portland, Oregon in 2005. This year's national preservation conference topic is Sustain America: Vision, Economics and Preservation. The conference will be held **September 27 - October 2**. For more information log on to <http://www.wa-trust.org>.



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Morton—Merritt Architecture of Tacoma has unveiled plans for the relocation and preservation of the Morton Depot. The City of Tacoma has asked the Cowlitz River Historical Society to remove the structure from land they wish to develop into a railcar loading facility. Jim Merritt hopes that by placing the depot closer to Main Street that both the depot and the central business district of Morton will be enhanced.

Rosalia—The new visitor center in Rosalia is a miniature time capsule and a real head turner. The art deco styled Texaco station in Rosalia has been refurbished right down to the period-appropriate gasoline pumps out front.

Roslyn—The Roslyn Historic Preservation Board has granted investment tax credits to the Roslyn Café. The Roslyn Café is the first building to benefit from the program since the city became a CLG in February, 2004.

Seattle—The quaint little Fort Lawton chapel on the hill in Discovery Park has been nominated for Seattle Landmarks status. The Army constructed the chapel during WWII and is one of the only remaining structures left from the collection of buildings that once was Fort Lawton. The chapel now meets the minimum age criteria and the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board hopes that this new status will prevent the city from demolishing the structure for future development at Discovery Park.

Shelton—Demolition of the historic Shelton Gymnasium is scheduled for January 6th. However, the city has yet to issue a permit to the school district for the removal of the Wohleb designed structure.

Snohomish—Bola Architecture of Seattle has been chosen to conduct a survey of the Snohomish Carnegie Library. The report to the Snohomish city council is due in January. The currently vacant library was built in 1910.

South Cle Elum—Washington State Parks and the Cascade Rail Foundation are making significant progress in preparing the 1909 depot for a limited opening, perhaps as early as June 2005. Once completed, South Cle Elum will have a railroad museum and a restaurant - the first restaurant in South Cle Elum in nearly thirty years!

Spokane—The City of Spokane is working with a local historic group to craft a new ordinance that would create incentives for property owners to fix up historic buildings rather than tear them down. The new ordinance would provide an additional level of protection for structures that are eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places but are not on it.

Tenino—the city council has officially designated portions of downtown as a historic district. Local area stonemason, Keith Phillips has been busy installing plaques to Tenino structures that are already listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TO AMEND TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

On November 17th, Rep. Rob Portman (R-OH) and Rep. William Jefferson (D-LA) introduced a bill that would amend the federal historic preservation Investment Tax Credit (ITC) program. H.R. 5378, the "Community Restoration and Revitalization Act" is a package of amendments that would make the rehab credit work better for smaller projects and in combination with the Low Income Housing Tax Credit. Bill sponsors hope that with passage of this legislation, the ITC would be easier to use for Main Street commercial properties, particularly where there is a critical need for affordable housing and community revitalization. The concept of an expanded rehab credit was developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in close collaboration with preservation organizations, developers, tax credit users, and the financing community. In addition, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) endorsed this initiative.

Briefly, the amendments to the rehab credit would:

- \* Reduce the requirement that lowers tax benefits dollar-for-dollar according to the amount of credit taken when using the historic rehab credit.
- \* Deepen the historic rehab credit in the most difficult to develop and disinvested areas.
- \* Make the ten percent portion of the credit available for housing and changing the definition of "older building" from "built before 1936" to any property "fifty years old or older."
- \* Enrich the historic rehab credit from 20 to 40 percent in projects that are \$2 million or less to target those "main street" type developments in which rehab credit costs are currently too prohibitive.
- \* Ease the rules governing non-profit deals so that more community-oriented projects move forward.

For more information about this and progress on other preservation related legislation, visit the Preservation Action website at [www.preservationaction.org](http://www.preservationaction.org).



# NTHP Session Proposals Sought

The National Trust for Historic Preservation invites you to propose an educational session for the 2005 National Preservation Conference. This is an opportunity to highlight preservation challenges, share cutting-edge ideas, and engage your peers at the premier educational and networking event for community leaders, volunteers, and staff of the historic preservation movement.

Portland, Oregon, the site of the 2005 conference, is the dynamic setting in which we will explore the conference theme, Sustain America: Vision, Economics, and Preservation.

Your proposal should focus on one or more of the following:

- Preservation challenges in your region related to those of the Northwest, such as farmland and open space protection, creative solutions to transportation issues, and establishment of urban growth boundaries.
- Cutting-edge ideas and tactics for adaptive use, infill, and mixed-use projects using a range of state/local financial incentives, public sector leadership, and green architecture.
- Roundtable discussions on cultural tourism, historic sites, heritage education, and sustaining a healthy organization.
- A topic that will not only engage your peers in a thoughtful exchange of ideas, but will also provide them with tools and resources to apply in their own situations.

We invite your best thinking and proposals to address important issues in historic preservation and which provide for active interaction of the participants. In addition, we encourage you to submit proposals that include speakers from diverse backgrounds. Advanced level sessions--which meet the needs of individuals who already know the basics--are of great interest to conference participants.

To submit your proposal, please go on-line to [www.nthpconference.org](http://www.nthpconference.org). Click on "Propose a Session." You may complete the form on-line or print out a PDF version and fax the completed hard copy to (202) 588-6472.

Note the submission deadline: Friday, January 14, 2005.

If you have any questions, contact Walter Gallas, Senior Education Planner, Conferences, National Trust for Historic Preservation at (202) 588-6095, email: [walter\\_gallas@nthp.org](mailto:walter_gallas@nthp.org).

# SHPO Award Nominations Open

The state Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) is seeking nominations for the 15th Annual Awards for Outstanding Achievements in Historic Preservation. This awards program recognizes persons, organizations, and projects that have achieved distinction in the field of historic preservation. Award recipients will be recognized at a ceremony held during National Historic Preservation Month, May 2005. The ceremony is sponsored by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation and will take place on Tuesday, May 10th, 5:30 to 8:00 pm in the newly refurbished State Reception Room, located inside the Legislative Building on the Capitol Campus in Olympia.

Nominations can be made in one of the following categories: historic preservation planning, historic property rehabilitation projects, career achievement, public education, stewardship, special achievement and media.

The deadline for submitting nominations to OAHP is Friday, March 11, 2005. Nomination forms, instructions and other information about the awards may be obtained by visiting [www.oahp.wa.gov](http://www.oahp.wa.gov), or by contacting Russell Holter at 360.586.3533 or [russellh@cted.wa.gov](mailto:russellh@cted.wa.gov).

OAHP is part of the state Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED). CTED is the lead state agency charged with enhancing and promoting sustainable community and economic vitality in Washington state. For more information, please visit [www.cted.wa.gov](http://www.cted.wa.gov) or call 360.725.4019.







# Survey Find

*The Odd, Unusual, Unique, and Avant  
Garde in Washington State...*

Architectural plan and pattern books have been available since the first Euro-American pioneers set foot in what was to become Washington state back in the 1850s. Today, thousands of designs produced by pattern and plan books can be found in communities across the state. Many of these guides were published by well-known architects, such as Palliser & Palliser, A.J. Bicknell and W.T. Comstock. Others came from regional designers such as Elmer E. Green, Victor Voorhees, Donald Byers, and W.W. DeLong. Still other plans and plan books could be acquired from national kit house companies such as Sears, Roebuck & Co., Montgomery Ward's, the Aladdin Co., or the Gordan-Van Tine Company. Closer to home, plans could be purchased from Seattle's Ainslie Boyd Co. or Portland's Fenner Manufacturing Company (later called Ready-Built Homes).

Because these periodicals (many complete with floor plans and scale drawings of architectural details) were advertised in newspapers and were commonly found in public libraries, they were easily accessible resources. Many homeowners, carpenters and designers bought, borrowed and copied the designs. As such, most are nearly impossible to attribute to a certain designer, architect, or company. Many local lumber companies even offered plans for free, hoping that the customer would purchase building supplies from them.

"Better Home Plans" from the Los Angeles based E.W. Stillwell & Company were offered via several \$1.00 plan books and many built examples are found in Washington to this day. Books for Little Bungalows, SW Stucco Homes, All-American Homes, the New Colonials, and West Coast Bungalows were all available. The company supplied hundreds of designs for dwellings built in California during the teens and twenties, noting that their service was "cheaper than the customary architect's fee". The pictured homes, all Stillwell designs, are found in Spokane, Aberdeen and Grandview and boast an unusual gambrel roof entry porch and low pitched hip roofs. Note the reversed floor plan and slight change in the bay window detailing which allowed for variety within the same design.



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